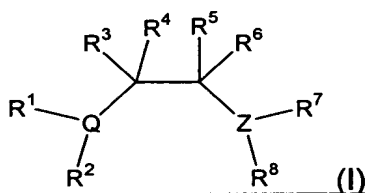


AMENDMENTS

In The Claims

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A process for the polymerization of olefins, comprising the step of contacting, under polymerizing conditions, one or more polymerizable olefins with an active polymerization catalyst comprising a transition metal complex as set forth above in Claim 1: a group 3 through 11 (IUPAC) transition metal or lanthanide metal complex of a ligand of the formula (I)



wherein:

Z is nitrogen and Q is phosphorus, or Z is oxygen and Q is phosphorus, or Z is oxygen and Q is nitrogen;

provided that:

when Q is phosphorous and Z is nitrogen: R¹ and R² are each independently hydrocarbyl, silyl, or substituted hydrocarbyl having an E_s of about -0.90 or less; R³, R⁴, R⁵, and R⁶ are each independently hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, a functional group, or substituted hydrocarbyl; R⁷ is hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl or silyl; and R⁸ is hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl, or silyl; provided that any two of R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁸ vicinal or geminal to one another together may form a ring;

when Q is phosphorous and Z is oxygen:

R¹ and R² are each independently hydrocarbyl, silyl, or substituted hydrocarbyl having an E_s of about -0.90 or less; R³ and R⁴ are each independently hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, a functional group, or substituted hydrocarbyl; R⁵ and R⁷ taken together form a double bond; R⁸ is not present; and R⁶ is -OR⁹, -NR¹⁰R¹¹, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl, wherein R⁹ is hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl, and R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are each independently hydrogen, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl; and provided that any two of R³, R⁴, and R⁶ vicinal or geminal to one another may form a ring; or

R¹ and R² are each independently hydrocarbyl, silyl, or substituted hydrocarbyl having an E_s of about -0.90 or less; R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are each independently

hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, a functional group, or substituted hydrocarbyl; R⁷ is hydrocarbyl, silyl, or substituted hydrocarbyl; and R⁸ is not present; and provided that any two of R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, and R⁷ vicinal or geminal to one another may form a ring;

when Q is nitrogen: R¹ is hydrocarbyl, silyl, or substituted hydrocarbyl having an E_s of about -0.90 or less; R² and R³ are each independently hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, a functional group, or substituted hydrocarbyl, or taken together form a double bond; R⁴ is hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, a functional group, or substituted hydrocarbyl; Z is oxygen; R⁶ and R⁷ taken together form a double bond; R⁸ is not present; R⁵ is -OR¹², -R¹³ or -NR¹⁴R¹⁵, wherein R¹² and R¹³ are each independently hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl, and R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ are each hydrogen, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl; provided that when R² and R³ taken together form an aromatic ring, R¹ and R⁴ are not present; and further provided that any two of R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ vicinal or geminal to one another taken together may form a ring.

12. (Original) The process of Claim 11, wherein said one or more polymerizable olefins are compounds of the formula $H_2C=CH(CH_2)_nG$ (VIII), wherein n is 0 or an integer of 1 or more, g is hydrogen or $-CO_2R^{25}$, and R²⁵ is hydrogen, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl.

13. (Original) The process of Claim 12, wherein said one or more polymerizable olefins comprises ethylene.

14. (Original) The process of Claim 13, wherein said one or more polymerizable olefins comprises ethylene and at least one other polymerizable olefin.

15. (Original) A process for the manufacture of a polar copolymer by contacting, under polymerizing conditions, a hydrocarbon olefin, a polar olefin, and a polymerization catalyst comprising a nickel complex of a bidentate ligand which is an active ligand.

16. (Original) The process of Claim 15, provided that when CO is present, at least one other polar olefin is also present.